REMARKS

Reconsideration of the subject application is respectfully requested.

Claims 8-13 are currently pending in the subject application.

Previously presented independent claim 8 recites a method for real-time online search processing of shopping requests received from a wireless handheld client in a received native language. Communication between the wireless handheld client and a remote server employs XML. Maintained in an offline database is information about a plurality of vendor sites. This information includes URL's, search form URL's, description of domains, and vendor descriptions. The vendor descriptions include generalized results about how product information is organized on each of the plurality of vendor sites.

Among the plurality of vendor sites are vendor sites in different native languages, and the maintained information for each of the plurality of vendor sites includes information in the native language of that vendor site.

A product keyword request, received from the wireless handheld device in the received native language, is processed. The processing includes using the vendor descriptions to identify ones of the plurality of vendor sites which may have information responsive to and in the received native language of the product keyword request. The processing includes using the search form URL's which are included in the maintained information for each of the vendor sites.

From the ones of the plurality of vendor sites identified as in the received native language of the received request, real-time price and product information in the received native language are extracted, and the extracted price and product information are communicated to the wireless handheld device.

An example of using the search form URL's to process the received request is provided in the published version of the subject application in paragraphs 156 and 157:

The Semantics Recognition Buyer Agent 20 uses the user's input parameter(s) and the search form URL to compose a new HTTP request for each of the identified online vendors. For instance, if the user wants to buy a "hard disk," the new request composed by the Semantics Recognition Buyer Agent 20 will be as follows:

"http://www.onlineshop.com/search.asp?item=harddisk,"

and the Semantics Recognition Buyer Agent 20 will send this HTTP request to the online vendor as if the user submitted the request himself. If there are N identified vendors, the Semantics Recognition Buyer Agent 20 will initiate N threads to fill-in the search form for each of the N identified vendors.

Rejection as double patenting:

The Examiner has provisionally rejected claim 8 on the ground of nonstatutory obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claim 8 of copending Application No. 09/967,233. Filed herewith is a terminal disclaimer which removes Application No. 09/967,233 as a basis for a double patenting rejection.

Rejection of claim 8 under 35 USC 103(a):

The Examiner rejected claim 8 under 35 USC 103(a) as unpatentable over AltaVista (PTO-892, Items: U and V) in view of Sullivan (PTO-892, Item: W) further in view of Rappoport (PTO 892, Item: UU).

Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection. The cited references do not teach alone or in combination the processing of a product keyword request which includes "using the vendor descriptions to identify ones of the plurality of vendor sites which may have information . . . in the received native language of the . . . request." Also, the cited references do not teach alone or in combination the processing of a product keyword request "using the search form URL's" that are included in the maintained information for the vendor sites.

In addressing the "processing" aspect of claim 8, the Examiner has taken the position that:

> Therefore it would have been obvious to one or ordinary skill in the art at time the invention was made to use AltaVista to perform *keyword search query in the native language* of the user to *retrieve information in the native language* of the user as taught by Sullivan, because a person of ordinary skill has good reason to pursue the known options within his or her technical grasp. If this leads to the anticipated success, it is likely the product is not of innovation but of ordinary skill and common sense.

Office Action, p. 7, emphasis original.

However, as pointed out by the Examiner, in order to search by language in AltaVista the user is required to use a drop down box to select the language of choice:

> To use the search by language feature, AltaVista provides a drop down box above the main search box to allow the user to select the language of choice. Sullivan teaches searching by language whereby one can also create a regional service by grouping Web pages to language.

Office Action, p. 6. Thus, according to the teaching in AltaVista, the user specifies the language by using a drop down box, in addition to providing the request itself. In contrast, as recited in claim 8, the identification of the vendor sites to search is based upon the request itself and the native language of the request, and does not depend upon a user first specifying the native language to use.

Further, the Examiner has not indicated where in AltaVista, Sullivan, or Rappaport there is a teaching of the feature in the "processing" aspect of claim 8 in which search form URL's (that were stored as part of vendor descriptions) are used to process the request. In addressing this aspect the Examiner has stated:

> It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at time the invention was made that the combination of AltaVista and Sullivan as noted above teach and suggest using a *mobile wireless device* for comparison shopping by submitting *keyword search queries in a native language* to AltaVista and receiving search results back in the received native language, because a person of ordinary skill has good reason to pursue the known options within his or her technical grasp. If this leads to the anticipated success, it is likely the product is not of innovation but of ordinary skill and common sense.

Office Action, p. 8, emphasis original. However, there is no indication as to where in AltaVista or Sullivan there is a teaching of the search form URL's (that were stored as part of vendor descriptions) being used to process the request.

The Examiner also stated:

> Rappoport teaches testing AltaVista and other search engines. Rappoport teaches search engines being heavy-duty server programs, whether they're local or served by an ASP (application service provider) and having two elements. The first is the indexer that gathers the words from the documents-whether HTML pages, local files or database records-and puts those words into an index file for fast retrieval (Examiner's interpretation: file is offline). The second element is the search engine itself, which accepts queries, locates the relevant pages in the index and formats the results in an HTML page. * * * Therefore it would have been obvious to one or ordinary skill in the art at time the invention was made to store the index in a database managed by the search engine indexer, because a person of ordinary skill has good reason to pursue the known options within his or her technical grasp. If this leads to the anticipated success, it is likely the product is not of innovation but of ordinary skill and common sense. The Examiner interprets claim 8 (b) as claiming the basic functionality of an indexer used by a search engine.

Office Action, pp. 9-10. However, Rappoport is respectfully submitted to teach the provision of a text search engine, that is a part of a Web site's infrastructure for Web sites that are database-generated sites, for searching database-generated data. For example, Rappoport states:

> Database information is stored in separate fields, but searchers dislike choosing fields before searching. Database searches require complex Boolean or SQL search commands, whereas text search engines an find items when given a simple set of search terms, with no operators at all. <u>Adding a text search engine does increase the complexity of a Web site's infrastructure.</u>

<p style="text-align:center">* * *</p>

> <u>If you have a database generated site, such as an e-commerce catalog, you might wonder why you would need another search engine</u>. After all, can't you locate everything by using the database itself? Not exactly. Database search functions were designed to find out how many widgets

are in the Muncie warehouse or which salesperson did the best last quarter-they were not designed to show the top five pages on firewalls or the toastiest ski socks. In fact, there are several excellent reasons to <u>use a text search engine on database-generated data</u>:

Rappoport, pp. 1, 2, respectively, emphasis added. Thus, it is respectfully submitted that Rappoport does not teach a method in which, as part of an offline database, information is maintained for a plurality of vendor sites, where such maintained information includes search form URL's, and where search form URL's for identified vendor sites are used in processing the product keyword request, as recited in claim 8.

It is noted that Rappoport, at page 4, describes that "specialized ASPs provide remote search services." However, it is respectfully submitted that this is not a teaching of the method of claim 8 because such remote search service are invoked through the website that a user is accessing for purposes of searching such website. In other words, such services are site-specific. Specifically, Rappoport states:

> <u>When a user enters a search in a form on a site</u>, the action is sent to the remote service search engine, which locates matches within the index, sorts the results by relevance and sends back an HTML results page with links to the original pages. This removes the load from local servers.

Rappoport, p. 4, emphasis added.

For the foregoing reasons, it is respectfully submitted that claim 8 is allowable over the cited references.

Rejection of claims 9-13 under 35 USC 103(a):

Claims 9-13 have been rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as unpatentable over AltaVista (PTO-892, Items: U and V), Sullivan (PTO-892, Item: W), and Rappoport (PTO 892, Item: UU), as applied to claim 8, further in view of BW (PTO-892, Item: X).

Claims 9-13 are ultimately dependent from allowable independent claim 8, and are therefore allowable as being dependent from an allowable base claim.

Conclusion

For the foregoing reasons, it is respectfully submitted that the subject application is in condition for allowance, and the Examiner's indication to that end is respectfully solicited.
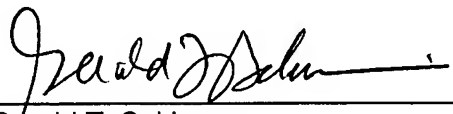
The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees that may be associated with this communication to Deposit Account No. 07-1896.

Respectfully submitted,

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